

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 ACDA-19 NSC-10 CU-04 CIAE-00 DODE-00

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 054749

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: CSCE: SWISS PROPOSAL

REF: (A) NATO 1411; (B) 1378; (C) STATE 5771

1. IN REF A, MISSION SUGGESTS THAT US PROBABLY SHOULD UNDERTAKE EFFORT, ON BEHALF OF OTHER ALLIES, OF SYNTHESIZING NATIONAL RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS RAISED BY US REGARDING SWISS PROPOSAL. REF B REPORTED CANADIAN QUERY CONCERNING MODALITIES OF TABLING OF US " REVISED MANDATE" FOR SWISS PROPOSAL UNDER AGENDA ITEM I. MISSION WILL RECALL THAT WE FLOATED LIST OF QUESTIONS TRANSMITTED REF C TO STIMULATE HARDER THINKING WITHIN ALLIANCE CONCERNING VARIOUS IMPLICATIONS OF SWISS ARBITRATION MACHINERY. ALLIED REACTION
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INDICATES SOME SERIOUS THOUGHT IS NOW BEING GIVEN TO THESE QUESTIONS AND US PURPOSE IN CIRCULATING LIST IS BEING MET. SINCE OUR PREFERENCE HAS BEEN TO ENSURE THAT OTHER ALLIES ASSUME PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY FOR RESPONDING TO SWISS PROPOSAL, AND THAT US AVOID TAKING LEAD UNLESS NECESSARY TO PROTECT US INTERESTS, WE PREFER THAT OTHERS NOW ASSUME MORE ACTIVE ROLE IN DEVELOPING ALLIED POSITION AND CONVEYING THESE VIEWS TO SWISS.

2. THEREFORE, YOU SHOULD NOT NOW ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR SYNTHESIZING NATIONAL REACTIONS TO LIST OF QUESTIONS AS SUGGESTED REF A. SIMILARLY, WE DO NOT FEEL US SHOULD BE THE PRINCIPAL PARTY TO INFORM SWISS OF POSSIBLE REVISIONS

WHICH MIGHT BE MADE IN SWISS MANDATE TO MAKE IT MORE ACCURATELY CORRESPOND WITH ALLIED VIEWS. OTHER MEMBERS OF ALLIANCE, SOME OF WHOM APPEAR MUCH MORE RECEPTIVE TO SWISS PROPOSAL THAN WE, SHOULD ASSUME ROLE AS GO-BETWEEN WITH SWISS AND, ULTIMATELY, IN EXPLAINING ALLIANCE POSITION TO SOVIETS.

3. RE MISSION SUGGESTION FOR MEETING OF POLADS AND LEGAL EXPERTS, ALTHOUGH WE SEE NO PARTICULAR NEED FOR MEETING AT THIS TIME, ESPECIALLY IN VIEW OF ABSENCE FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS ON THIS GENERAL SUBJECT AT MPT, WE WOULD BE PREPARED TO PARTICIPATE IN DISCUSSIONS WHENEVER OTHER ALLIES FEEL THIS ADVISABLE. -

4. BEGIN FYI: ALTHOUGH WE ARE PREPARED TO CONTINUE TO SUPPORT CONSIDERATION OF SWISS PROPOSAL, WHICH HAS SOME MERIT IN ABSTRACT, WE DO NOT WISH TO CHAMPION IT SINCE ITS REALIZATION WOULD POSE A NUMBER OF PRACTICAL PROBLEMS FOR US. END FYI ROGERS

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